

The Battle of the Books



FAQs (Frequently Asked Questions):

What is The Battle of the Books? The Battle of the Books is a reading competition in which teams of kids earn points for correctly answering questions about a set list of books. The team with the most points wins. Initial 'tournaments' will allow the strongest competitors to go forward to compete in the final battle from which one team will emerge as champions. The teachers will decide how teams are to be organised.

Who can participate? All kids in grades 3 and 4 are encouraged to take part. We'll be asking them to sign up soon so that we know who is interested.

When does The Battle of the Books take place? We'll hold a couple of practice 'sparring matches' before our holidays in December. These won't 'count' as elimination rounds but should allow kids to see firsthand how the competition is carried out.

Our initial round of 'real tournaments' will take place in March, 2016 allowing the teams that are going forward to have another two months to do any re-reading they feel is necessary. The final Battle will be held in May or June.

When should my child begin reading the set list of books? Now! The books were announced in this week's assembly. Each classroom has a couple of copies for the kids to share and there are additional copies in the library. If your child is interested he or she should start with any available book from the list and read it.

It may be that you'd like to read one or more of the titles together as a family, and it's possible the class teachers would choose one title to read aloud to their classes.

What books are on the list?

This year's titles are:

Kensuke's Kingdom, by Michael Morpurgo

El Deafo, by Cece Bell

Igraine the Brave, by Cornelia Funke

The Adventures of a South Pole Pig, by Chris Kurtz

One Dog and His Boy, by Eva Ibbotson

The Boy Who Swam With Piranhas, by David Almond

Do we have to read the English versions of the books? No. If any students prefer to hear or read the books in a language other than English and a preferred language version is available it would be great for them to do so. Do bear in mind, however, the tournament will take place in English.

~Mrs Travers
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